identified from among a predetermined number of combinations of key words among the selected key words, and the identified key word combination and an expression into which the sentence from which the key words are selected is converted are previously associated, and

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, lines 5-6, with the following:

Another aspect of the present invention is an expression converting method wherein by use of classing information in which key words are previously classed based on predetermined properties and each class is provided with a name, for each sentence in a corpus, key words are selected from the sentence, a combination of classes that are in a co-occurrence relation are identified from among a predetermined number of combinations of classes among classes to which the selected key words belong, and the identified class combination and an expression into which the sentence from which the key words are selected is converted are previously associated, and

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, lines 23-24, with the following:

Still another aspect of the present invention is an expression converting method wherein for each sentence in a corpus, key words are selected from the sentence, a combination of key words that are in a co-occurrence relation is identified from among a predetermined number of combinations of key words among the selected key words, and the identified key word combination and an expression into which the sentence from which the key words are selected is converted are previously associated,

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 19-20, with the following:

Yet another aspect of the present invention is an expression converting apparatus comprising:

Please replace the paragraph at page 10, lines 10-12, with the following:

Still yet another aspect of the present invention is an expression converting apparatus, wherein when the degree of similarity is high as the result of the comparison, said converting means outputs the selected expression after removing a part into which a key word is converted is removed from the selected expression, said key word belonging to the key word combination that does not coincide and not being included in the key word combination that coincides.

Please replace the paragraph at page 10, lines 18-20, with the following:

A further aspect of the present invention is an expression converting apparatus, wherein said expression into which the sentence is converted comprises only key words or words equivalent to the key words.

Please replace the paragraph at page 10, lines 23-24, with the following:

A still further aspect of the present invention is an expression converting apparatus comprising:

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, lines 17-18, with the following:

A yet further aspect of the present invention is an expression converting apparatus comprising:

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, lines 13-15, with the following:

A still yet further aspect of the present invention is an expression converting apparatus, wherein when the degree of similarity is high as the result of the comparison, said converting means outputs the selected expression after removing a part into which a class is converted is removed from the selected expression, said class belonging to the class combination that does not coincide and not being included in the class combination that coincides.

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, lines 21-23, with the following:

An additional aspect of the present invention is an expression converting apparatus, wherein said expression into which the sentence is converted comprises only class.

Please replace the paragraph at page 12, line 25, through page 13, lines 1-4, with the following:

A still additional aspect of the present invention is a program for causing a computer to function as all or part of the following means of the expression converting apparatus:
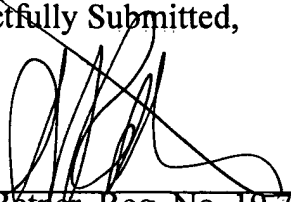
Please replace the paragraph at page 13, lines 18-21, with the following:

A yet additional aspect of the present invention is a program for causing a computer to function as all or part of the following means of the expression converting apparatus:

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, lines 15-18, with the following:

A still yet additional aspect of the present invention is a program for causing a computer to function as all or part of the following means of the expression converting apparatus:

Respectfully Submitted,

Allan Ratner, Reg. No. 19,717
Attorney for Applicants

AR/dlm
Enclosure: Version with markings to show changes made
Amended drawing

Dated: March 12, 2001

Suite 301
One Westlakes, Berwyn
P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980
(610) 407-0700

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is
hereby authorized to charge payment to
Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees
associated with this communication.

EXPRESS MAIL Mailing Label Number: EL 736966386 US
Date of Deposit: March 12, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Kathleen Libby